

# ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2016

**Black Range Ranger District**

Gila National Forest

**Animas Allotment #203**



**Prepared By:** \_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 12/15/15  
Range Technician

**Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 12/15/15  
District Ranger

## **Black Range Ranger District**

### **2016 Annual Operating Instructions**

#### **Animas Allotment**

#### **Term Permitted Livestock Numbers:**

<b>Permittee</b>	<b>Number &amp; Class of livestock</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Turner Ranch Properties, L.P.	120 Cattle Cow/Calf	9/1-11/30

**This is year #5 for total non-use (by livestock) for the Animas Allotment for a 10-year period ending December 31, 2021 which was approved through the term grazing permit signed on April 23, 2012.**

#### **KEY AREA MONITORING**

Although there are no cattle authorized to graze the Animas Allotment during the 2016 season, this office may conduct monitoring of the allotment as schedules allow. The purpose of these monitoring inspections will be to determine compliance with the non-use agreement, detect trespass livestock from adjacent areas, and to assess general resource conditions of the allotment.

District personnel will contact you to coordinate site visits to monitor key areas. Permittee participation is encouraged. Forage utilization estimates will be consistent with the Forest Service Range Analysis Handbook methodology.

#### **RANGE IMPROVEMENTS**

It is the permittee's responsibility to ensure that existing range improvements remain functional. This includes boundary fences and water facilities. Routine maintenance of existing improvements does not require written clearance; however, construction/reconstruction of new improvements must be authorized in writing from this office.

No new range improvements are planned for the Animas Allotment for the 2016 grazing season. If at any point during the year you determine a need for additional range improvements, or materials to maintain/reconstruct existing improvements please contact Shane Shannon, Range Technician, to coordinate the project.

#### **SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS**

No special management Provisions.

#### **OTHER PROVISIONS**

The permittee must obtain permission from the District Ranger, before conducting any earth disturbing activities on the National Forest. The Forest Service will arrange inspections of project areas and will prepare appropriate environmental and cultural documents before earth-disturbing activities proceed. These activities include road/earthen tank maintenance, as well as construction/reconstruction of trails, roads, earthen tanks, etc. **Do not conduct any earth-disturbing activities on the Forest without written clearance from this office.**

The Annual Operating Instructions are a part of the Term Grazing Permit as provided for in Part 3, Section 8. These Provisions comply with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan, including the 1996 Forest Plan Amendment. They also comply with the Endangered Species Act found in the Biological Assessment for the Animas Allotment. Any additional information collected during the year may be incorporated into the Annual Operating Instructions.

This decision is not subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251.